(iii) Sales Tax.

345. The Commissioner of Excise continued to be the *Ex-officio* Commissioner of Sales Tax. The Deputy Commissioners' Divisions remained at 2 and Sales Tax Officers' Circles at 11.

346. Consequent on the formation of the State of Andhra, seven Taluks of Bellary District were merged with the Mysore State.

347. Mysore Act No. 4 of 1953, *viz.*, The Mysore Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1953, received the assent of the Rajpramukh on the 12th day of April 1953. The amendment is in respect of levy of Sales Tax on tobacco, cigars, cheroots, cigarette, tobacco and Pipe tobacco by amendment of Section 3 of Mysore Act XLVI of 1948. This Amendment of section 5 of the Mysore Act XLVI of 1948 relates to insertion of clause (iii-c) "after clause (iii) (b) of Section 5, of the principal Act ". This amendment specifies that the sale of cigars, cheroots, cigarette, cigarette tobacco and pipe tobacco shall be liable to tax under section 3, sub-section (1), only when such goods are first sold in the State of Mysore.

348. At the end of the year, there were 23,046 (21,155) Registered dealers including dealers assessed to tax though not registered. The amount of registration fees collected was Rs. 1,26,214 (Rs. 1,21,823).

349. The number of licenses issued or renewed during the year was 1,895 (1,496). The amount of license fee collected was Rs. 3,83,022 (Rs. 2,95,984).

350. Out of the net demand of Rs. 1,67,80,120, the collection was Rs. 1,16,83,724 leaving a balance of Rs. 50,96,396. The above figures do not include Rs. 33,354 being the tax collected by the dealers who are not liable to Sales Tax. A sum of Rs. 53,484 was collected as fines and penalties.

351. There were 1,943 (1,793) appeals and 1,240 (906) Revision petitions to be dealt with during the year. Of these 1,644 (1,251) appeals and 983 (787) Revision Petitions were disposed of, leaving a balance of 299 (542) appeal petitions and 257 (199) Revision Petitions at the close of the year.

REVENUE AND FINANCE

352. Of the total number of 3,955 prosecution cases, 2,220 (1,237) were withdrawn, 64 (59) were acquitted and 832 (617) were convicted, leaving a balance of 839 at the end of the year.

353. The total number of offences of all categories under Section 20 was 4,457 (2,166) including cases of the previous year. In 908 cases, the parties were let off with a warning, 3,449 (1,941) cases were compounded leaving a pendency of 100 (330) cases at the end of the year.

354. In 3,853(2,599) cases involving arrears of Rs. 21,18,977 (Rs. 12,81,705), the assistance of the Revenue Department was sought for the realisation of arrears under the provisions of Section 13 of the Act. In 1,198 (629) cases including arrear cases, a total sum of Rs. 3,03,467 (Rs. 2,63,718) was collected.

355. On grounds of under-assessment or escapement of assessment under rule 34 of the Mysore Sales Tax Rules, 228 (168) cases were re-opened which brought in a revenue of Rs. 1,09,181 (Rs. 1,51,065). There were 29(26) cases of rectification of mistakes under rule 35.

(iv) Mysore Government Insurance Department.

General.

356. On 4th November 1953, the post of a Joint Secretary to the Insurance Department was sanctioned in order to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Insurance Re-organisation Committee that pilot schemes under agriculture and Cattle Insurance be initiated, that the present method of advertisement and propaganda in the department be bettered and improved and that there is great scope for improvement in the field of Official Branch Insurance by conducting systematic and widespread inspections of the unit offices. The Report of the Insurance Re-organisation Committee was published.

357. In order to procure new business and infuse more drive in the Agency organisation, this department has been participating in important Jathras, Festivals and Exhibitions, by having departmental stalls, wherever possible.

358. As usual, the department participated in the Mysore Dasara Exhibition of 1953 and procured a record